

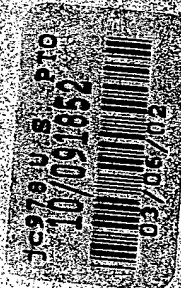
# EXHIBIT A

10/091,852

Please acknowledge receipt of the following by affixing hereon the Patent and Trademark Office date stamp and returning this card to our office.

Applicant: Patrick R. Crane, et al.  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: Herewith  
For: MONITORING SYSTEM AND METHOD  
NEW PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney(s): Christopher A. Vanderlaan  
Docket No.: 090738-0007  
Date of Deposit: March 5, 2002  
Express Mail Label: EL521196933US  
Enclosure(s): New Application Transmittal – Utility; Non-publication Request, Declaration and Power of Attorney, Specification, Drawings, Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, copies of items cited in binder; check for \$763.00; Return Postcard



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# EXHIBIT A

10/091,852

Patent  
Atty Docket No. 090738-0007

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Patrick R. CRANE, et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: MONITORING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD

)  
) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

)  
) Examiner: Not yet assigned

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the Office the items listed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed items are provided for the convenience of the Examiner. The Examiner is requested to consider and make these items of information of official record in the Application.

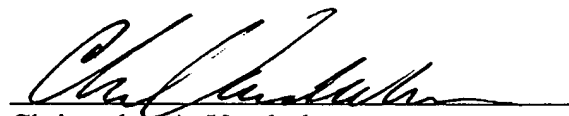
The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56 and the submission thereof by Applicants shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein, or any combination thereof, is material or considered to be material (37 CFR §1.97(h)) or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC §102 or §103 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such. Dates listed on the accompanying Form-1449 have in some cases been copied from the text of the submitted items and are not guaranteed to reflect accurate publication dates, nor is the listing of alleged dates of posting or publication intended as an admission regarding actual posting or publication dates.

Furthermore, the submission of the above listed items is not to be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search, or any search, has been made, or that additional information material to the examination of this Application does not exist.

This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1) and (3), that is, within the first three months of filing and before the first Office Action on the merits. Thus, no petition or fee is required. However, if the undersigned representative of Applicant is in error in this regard, then the Examiner is requested to consider this IDS as filed under §1.97(c) and is further authorized to charge any fee required by its filing to Deposit Account No. 09-0946.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: March 5, 2002



Christopher A. Vanderlaan  
Registration No. 37,747

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**LIST OF PATENTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR APPLICANT'S  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCK NO.

090738-0007

SERIAL NO.

Not yet assigned

APPLICANT:

Patrick R. Crane, et al.

FILING DATE:

Herewith

GROUP:

Not yet assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	Re. 35,503	5/13/1997	Hunter	73	861.63	1/24/1991
	AB	Re. 36,069	2/2/1999	Hunter	73	215	1/29/1992
	AC	4,799,388	1/24/1989	Hunter	73	861.63	5/19/1987
	AD	4,896,542	1/30/1990	Hunter	73	861.63	12/20/1988
	AE	5,199,306	4/6/1993	Hunter	73	861.63	11/16/1990
	AF	5,406,828	4/18/1995	Hunter et al.	73	4	11/16/1993
	AG	5,423,226	6/13/1995	Hunter et al.	73	861.63	12/9/1993
	AH	5,608,171	3/4/1997	Hunter et al.	73	861.63	12/21/1994

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

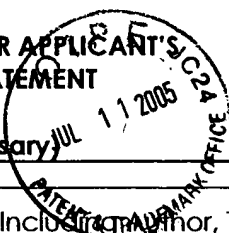
	AI	Marsh-McBirney, Inc. home web page printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com (undated)
	AJ	"Open Channel Flowmeters," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/open%20channel.html (undated)
	AK	"Flo-Dar Radar Velocity/Area Portable and Permanent Open Channel Flowmeters," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/images/Flo-Dar.html (undated)
	AL	"Flo-Tote II Portable Electromagnetic Flowmeter – Model 260 Series," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/Model%20260.html (undated)
	AM	"Flo-Tote II, Specifications, Model 260 Series," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/260%20Specs.html (undated)
	AN	"Pocket Site-Ware," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/Pocket%20Site-Ware.html (undated)
	AO	"Flo-Mate Portable Flowmeter Model 2000," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/Model%202000.html (undated)
	AP	"Flo-System Model 253 AC Powered Electromagnetic Flowmeter," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/Model%20253.html (undated)
	AQ	"Flo-System Specifications, Model 253," printout from www.marsh-mcBirney.com/253%20Specs.html (undated)

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant

<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>LIST OF PATENTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>ATTY. DOC#</b> 090738-0007	<b>NO.</b> Not yet assigned
	<b>APPLICANT:</b> Patrick R. Crane, et al.	
	<b>FILING DATE:</b> Herewith	<b>GROUP:</b> Not yet assigned



OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
AR	"SCADA-Flo Model 270, Electromagnetic Flowmeter," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/model%20270.html (undated)	
AS	"SCADA-Flo Electromagnetic Flowmeter Model 270 Specifications," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/270%20Specs.html (undated)	
AT	"Closed Conduit Flowmeters," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/closed%20conduit.html (undated)	
AU	"Multi-Mag Insertable Electromagnetic Averaging Flowmeter Model 285," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/model%20284.html (undated)	
AV	"Multi-Mag Insertable Electromagnetic Averaging Magmeter Specifications," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/284%20Specs.html (undated)	
AW	"Flo-System AC Powered Insertable Electromagnetic Flowmeter – Model 282," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/model%20283.html (undated)	
AX	"Flow-System AC Powered Insertable Electromagnetic Flowmeter Series – Specifications – Model 282," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/283%20Specs.html (undated)	
AY	"Flo-Tote Portable Insertable Data Logging Electromagnetic Flowmeter – Model 268," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/Model%20268 (undated)	
AZ	"Flo-Tote Portable Insertable Electromagnetic Flowmeter," printout from www.marsh-mcbriney.com/268%20Specs.html (undated)	
BA	Product Family Overview, Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (Nov. 9, 2001)	
BB	"Axsys MPU," Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (undated)	
BC	"Ultrasonic Level Transmitter," Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (undated)	
BD	"Remote Monitoring via Satellite," Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (undated)	
BE	"GS-98 Water Monitoring System," Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (undated)	
BF	"GS-93 Water Monitoring System," Stevens Water Monitoring System, website printout from www.stevenswater.com (undated)	
BG	Johnson, Dick, "Differential Flowmeters: Simple Can Be Better," Control Engineering Online, website printout from www.controleng.com (September 2000), pp. 1-3	
BH	"Liquid Flowmeters," Omega.com Technical Reference, website printout from www.omega.com/techref/flowcontrol.html, reprinted from Plant Engineering Magazine, November 21, 1984, by Cahners Publishing Company	
BI	Wireless Flow Monitor Event Notification System, Model 3000, printout from www.rmiwireless.com, RMI Rocky Mountain Instruments Inc. (undated)	
BJ	Wireless Flow Monitor Event Notification System, Specifications Model 2000 IS, printout from www.rmiwireless.com, RMI Rocky Mountain Instruments Inc. (undated)	

<b>EXAMINER:</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant	